

HEALTH ADVISORY STILL IN EFFECT FOR LEIGHTON PARK AND THE ROOSEVELT BRIDGE

Advisory will continue until consecutive samples show acceptable levels.

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Martin County, FL – An advisory remains in effect for the waters near Leighton Park in Palm City and the Roosevelt Bridge in Stuart. Results from samples taken on Monday were in the acceptable range for enteric bacteria, but advisory will remain until consecutive samples show acceptable levels. The areas will be sampled again on Monday, February 11.

Enteric bacteria inhabit the intestinal tract of humans and animals and their presence in recreational waters is an indication of fecal pollution. The presence of these bacteria may come from storm water runoff, pets, wildlife and human sewage.

Potential health risks for those who ingest or come in contact with the water include upset stomach, diarrhea, eye irritation and skin rashes.

The Florida Department of Health in Martin County conducts weekly water sampling at four sites along the St. Lucie River including the Roosevelt Bridge, Sandsprit Park, Leighton Park and the Stuart Sandbar.

Martin County beach sites are sampled every other week.

River and beach water sample results can be viewed at: http://martin.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/environmental-health/beach-and-river-sampling/results/index.html

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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